community participation and the capacity building including skill up-gradation in such rural areas are being supported through GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project and Capacity Building for Service Providers scheme of the Ministry.

The objective is to enable visitors to gain first hand experience of diverse rural life, art, culture and heritage at rural locations and in villages which have core-competency in terms of craft/handloom/textiles etc. and villages which fall on way to the popular tourist circuit and destinations.

(c) and (d) Development of Tourism near archaeological sites in the countryside is primarily the responsibility of the State/U.T. Governments. Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to States/U.Ts for development of projects prioritized in consultation with them under the existing scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits.

(e) and (f) No such proposal is under consideration of the Ministry of Tourism.

Agreement for sharing of Ravi-Beas waters

2246. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per 1981 agreement for sharing of Ravi-Beas waters there is a provision "until such time Rajasthan is in position to utilize its full share, Punjab may utilize the waters surplus to Rajasthan's requirement"; and

(b) whether Rajasthan is in a position to utilize its full share of 8.6 MAF since 1991 and whether the Central Government intends to direct BBMB to restore remaining 0.60 MAF to Rajasthan, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The relevant

provision from the agreement dated 31.12.1981 among the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan on sharing of surplus Ravi-Beas water is "Until such time as Rajasthan is in a position to utilize its full share, Punjab, shall be free to utilize the waters surplus to Rajasthan's requirements".

(b) As informed by the Government of Rajasthan, the State in a position to utilize its full share of 8.6 MAF since 1991. Further they have provided a statement according to which actual utilization by the State during 1990-91, 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are seen to be 8.55 MAF, 8.611 MAF, 8.732 MAF, 8.810 MAF, 9.046 MAF and 9.024 MAF and 9.173 MAF respectively. However, Punjab Termination of Agreements Act, 2004, enacted by Punjab Legislature on 12.07.04 terminates all agreements on Ravi-Beas waters including the 1981 agreement and discharges the State Government from any obligation arising from these agreements, and Presidential Reference thereupon is before the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Thus, any direction Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) in the matter of restoration of remaining 0.60 MAF will depend on the outcome of the Presidential Reference. However, if Punjab and Rajasthan settle the matter amicably, it would help in directing BBMB accordingly.

Linking of Godavari and Krishna rivers

2247. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the action plan of Government to link Godavari and Krishna rivers involving Southern States and Orissa. Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra;

(b) whether any consensus has been arrived at on water sharing; and

(c) if so, the details of benefits that would accrue to Orissa on completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The National Perspective